

## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

## INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY China

REPORT

SUBJECT Travel Controls, Shanghai

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REFERENCES

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.  
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.  
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

1. During 1953 regulations for inter-city travel in Communist China varied from city to city. It was almost impossible for a Chinese to travel from Peiping to Shanghai or from Shanghai to Canton except possibly in transit when leaving China (F-6).<sup>1</sup>
2. The distance a person could travel from his residence, on foot or otherwise, had never been clearly defined in official pronouncements. A person might occasionally go beyond the urban areas of Shanghai without trouble; but at other times he might be apprehended within the city and charged with exceeding the limit of travel without permission. The police seldom gave an unequivocal definition of this limit, and to avoid being arrested the average citizen of Shanghai remained at home.<sup>1</sup>
3. The labor union card was equivalent for Chinese to an internal passport.
4. Travel documents always included stringent limitations regarding the area, the route, and the time of travel. An alien exit certificate was, for example, not valid for travel by train from Shanghai to Hong Kong if issued for travel by sea.

Comment. Other sources have not described travel controls within these areas as being so strict. The fact that the source was a Caucasian, and that he may have interpreted personal experience unconsciously as being representative of control over all residents, possibly accounts for some of these statements.

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